

Siberian/Species Iris and AIS Region 21 Convention

Aim for Ames for Irises

May 23 & 24, 2025

Ames, Iowa

Co-Chairs: Lois Girton and Kris Jurik

We are pleased to host the 2025 Siberian and Species Iris Convention in conjunction with the spring meeting of the AIS Region 21. Region 21 and the Lincoln Iris Society are providing logistical and financial support. The convention will begin Friday afternoon, May 23, and conclude Saturday evening, May 24. It will include tours of three gardens, two with guest Siberian and species irises, in-garden judges' training, and silent and live auctions.

The host hotel is the Gateway Hotel & Conference Center, 2100 Green Hills Drive in Ames, www.gatewayames.com. Twenty guest rooms have been reserved on Friday and Saturday nights for convention attendees at the rate of **\$132/night** (U.S. funds) plus 12% tax for two queen or one king bed. Guest rooms have recently been renovated. Please contact the hotel directly at **515-292-8600** and mention the Region 21 Iris Convention to receive this pricing. Pricing is good until **May 2, 2025** but we encourage making your reservation as soon as possible so that we can request additional rooms if needed.

Convention Registration is **\$120 U.S. funds** if postmarked by **April 1, 2025** or **\$140 U.S. funds** if received between April 2 and April 20, 2025. **No refunds can be given for cancellations made after April 20, 2025.** Convention registration includes a welcome dinner and garden tour at the Jurik garden on Friday evening, continental breakfast on Saturday morning at the Girton garden, Saturday lunch and tours at the Iowa Arboretum and Gardens, judges' training at the Jurik garden, and an evening banquet, speaker, and auction at the Gateway Hotel Saturday evening.

A charter bus for 40 passengers has been reserved for transportation on Saturday. We will rely on ride-sharing on Friday evening for the across town trip from the hotel to the Jurik garden with sign up available at the registration table Friday afternoon.

The closest airport is the Des Moines International Airport (40 miles south of Ames). You may elect to rent a car there or to contact Kris Jurik, k.jurik@yahoo.com, to arrange for pick up by a volunteer.

Tentative Schedule (subject to minor changes)

Friday, May 23, 2025

2:00 - 5:00 pm	Convention registration at the Gateway Hotel Sign up to provide or receive rides to the Jurik garden, Ames
3:15 - 4:45 pm	SSI Board meeting at the Girton's home, Ames
5:15 - 8:00 pm	Garden Tours and Dinner from the Grill at the Jurik garden Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks will evaluate seedlings grown by Kris and Tom from Schafer/Sacks seeds

Saturday, May 24, 2025

8:30 am	Charter Bus leaves Gateway Hotel; please begin boarding at 8:15 am. Attendees can also drive their own vehicles.
8:45 pm	Arrive at the Girton garden in Ames for garden tour and a continental breakfast
10:30 am	Bus leaves Girton garden; please begin boarding by 10:15 am
11:00 am	Arrive at the Iowa Arboretum and Gardens, 1875 Peach Avenue, Madrid. Garden tours of guest irises and other collections.
12:30 pm	Box lunch in the Hughes Education Building at the Iowa Arboretum and Gardens
1:45 pm	Bus leaves the Arboretum; please begin boarding by 1:30 pm
2:15 pm	Bus stops at the Gateway Hotel to drop off those who do not wish to do judges' training or revisit the Jurik garden, then proceeds to the Jurik garden
3:15 - 4:15 pm	Judges' training at the Jurik garden given by Marty Schafer, Jan Sacks, and Patrick Spence
4:30 pm	Bus leaves for the Gateway Hotel; please begin boarding by 4:15 pm
4:45 pm	Bus arrives at the Gateway Hotel
5:00 pm	Silent Auction begins in the Meadow Room, Gateway Hotel
5:30 pm	Cocktail hour (cash bar) in the Meadow Room
6:00 pm	Banquet, Meadow Room, Gateway
7:00 pm	Presentation by Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks
8:00 pm	Silent Auction closes
8:15 - 10:00 pm	Live Auction

Registration Form

Please provide the requested information and return the form and payment by check made out to **AIS Region 21** to:

Convention Registrar

Gary White
701 Old Cheney Rd,
Lincoln, NE 68512-1168

Name 1: _____ Judges' Training: __ yes __ no

Name 2: _____ Judges' Training: __ yes __ no

City: _____

State/Province: _____ Country: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

I/we give permission to have names and contact information shared with attendees.

Yes__ No __

Registration postmarked before April 1, 2025: _____ @ \$120 = _____

Registration postmarked after April 1, 2025: _____ @ \$140 = _____

Name 1: _____

Friday evening: _____ meat entree (various selections)
_____ vegetarian

Saturday Box Lunch: _____ turkey sandwich
_____ Italian (salami, etc.) sandwich
_____ vegetarian wrap or gluten free sandwich (specify)

Saturday Banquet: _____ chicken Wellington
_____ honey chipotle pork tenderloin
_____ grilled vegetable risotto

Name 2: _____

Friday evening: _____ meat entree (various selections)
_____ vegetarian

Saturday Box Lunch: _____ turkey sandwich
_____ Italian (salami, etc.) sandwich
_____ vegetarian wrap or gluten free sandwich (specify)

Saturday Banquet: _____ chicken Wellington
_____ honey chipotle pork tenderloin
_____ grilled vegetable risotto